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The source material and references will be found valuable aids in furthering work of similar character in other states.

F. W. B.

YOUNG, JAMES T. *The New American Government and Its Work.* Pp. xi, 663.
Price, \$2.25. New York: The Macmillan Company, 1915.

Since the appearance of Professor Beard's volume on American Government and Politics which has come to be recognized as the standard treatise for use as a text with college classes in American Government, no work has appeared of such interest and importance to the teachers of this subject as the above volume prepared by Professor Young. The former volume deals particularly with the constitutions and framework, as well as the political parties of state and federal governments, and includes a brief discussion of local and municipal government, whereas the latter omits the historic background and starts at once with an analysis of the organization and functions of the American federal government. Constitutions and governmental framework are very briefly considered. For example, the constitution, as well as the executive, legislative and judicial departments of the state, are treated in a short section of forty pages. In place of the discussion in detail of constitutions and government departments consideration is given to the functions performed by government, the scope of governmental power as determined by court decisions, and the recent acts of Congress and the state legislatures. Special emphasis is accorded to the regulation and control of business by legislation, and by judicial decisions.

A noteworthy feature of Dr. Young's work is his treatment of the state at work under the headings: Business Protection and Regulation, Labor, Education, Health, Charities and Corrections, Highways and Finances. In these chapters the present activities of state governments are described in a manner which sets a new standard for teachers in treating American state government. Matters of present public controversy such as the radical and conservative doctrines as to the constitution, the relation between nation and state in the regulation of commerce, the direct primary and the weaknesses of judicial procedure are discussed in a fair and impartial manner. The material presented is systematically arranged and given in such form as to be readily comprehensible to beginners in the subject. Each of the chapters is concluded with a few well-chosen references and extended lists of questions for those who need the aid of this sort of mechanical device.

One of the apparent objections to the volume is to be found in the lack of due proportion—a very necessary requirement for a successful textbook. The extraordinary emphasis given to the control and regulation of business and the careful analysis of court decisions relating thereto, although especially interesting and valuable, seems scarcely warranted for the purpose of an elementary treatise for class use. To the average teacher of American government the omission of municipal and local government will be regarded as a serious defect and it is questionable whether the author was wise in stressing so exhaustively certain subjects of his choice as to make it impossible to treat either municipal or local government. An occasional bias is in evidence, such for example as the author's avowed defense of the implied power doctrine which, at least, is open to objections

worthy of presentation along with an able defense of the expansionist theory of constitutional construction. On the whole the author has done a very commendable piece of work and this volume along with Professor Beard's renders the task of presenting American government to beginning classes a comparatively easy one for the instructor.

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INTERNATIONAL QUESTIONS

HALL, ARNOLD B. *Outline of International Law.* Pp. v, 255. Price, \$1.75.
Chicago: La Salle Extension University, 1915.

MISCELLANEOUS

Art Jury, Third and Fourth Annual Reports, for 1913 and 1914. Pp. 44 each.
Philadelphia: Published by the Department, 1915.

A record of the achievements of this department of the city government, established May 25, 1907.

BOURNE, HENRY ELDRIDGE. *The Revolutionary Period in Europe (1763-1815).*
Pp. 494. Price, \$2.50. New York: The Century Company, 1914.

This book is an excellent and fairly well proportioned presentation of the history of the period. It begins with a short description of the old régime, its governments and peoples, and a historical résumé of the political and economic theories of the eighteenth century. Then follow chapters on the efforts of the existing governments to remedy the glaring evils of which the age was beginning to be conscious. The author states emphatically that definite demands for reform were well enunciated and that these reforms were well begun before the Revolution broke out. Prussia under Frederick the Great, Austria under Joseph II and Spain under Charles III had already done much. He makes the interesting assertion that "Benevolent despotism was followed by Revolution only in France. The reasons were many but the chief reason was that despotism in France was incompetent." Yet even in France he shows that Turgot had actually freed the grain market, abolished the corvée and destroyed the guilds. In restoring the old parliaments which Louis XV had abolished, Louis XVI, in the interest of establishing good feeling in the beginning of his reign, "was restoring the chief obstacle to effective reforms and thereby rendering revolution inevitable."

The author gives prominence to the social and industrial changes of the period. He assigns a large place to the "Continental System," and makes it one of the chief reasons for the downfall of the Empire. Of the Industrial Revolution he says, it "eventually furnished the economic foundation upon which the political and social principles of the French Revolution might erect the institutions of a democratic society."

The Revolution is handled first as it affected France and then Europe. Mirabeau and Danton are accorded their customary places. The financial side of the